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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/511,620	02/23/2000	Tomomi Momohara	005702-20068	3356

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EXAMINER


FENTY, JESSE A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2815

DATE MAILED: 06/06/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 09/511,620	Applicant(s) MOMOHARA, TOMOMI	
	Examiner Jesse A. Fenty	Art Unit 2815	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 March 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 20-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 21, 28 and 35 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 20, 22-27, 29-34 and 36-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☒ All   b) ☐ Some \*   c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/865,371.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                      | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____  |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                             | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>2, 10</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other:  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Title*

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive and contains method language. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 34 and 36-40 recite the limitation "third wells" in line 2 of the claims. There are insufficient antecedent bases for these limitations in the claims.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 20, 22-27, 29-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yonemoto (U.S. Patent No. 5,473,183).

In re claim 20, Yonemoto (Fig. 7) discloses a semiconductor device comprising:

A semiconductor substrate (41) of a first conductivity type;

At least one first well (42N) of a second conductivity type formed in the semiconductor substrate; and

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At least one second well (top P well) of the first conductivity type formed in at least one first well, wherein

The semiconductor device is composed of semiconductor circuits each formed in at least one first well and at least one second well.

In re claims 22-26, Yonemoto (Fig. 7) discloses a semiconductor device comprising:

A semiconductor substrate (41) of a first conductivity type;

At least one first well (42N) of a second conductivity type formed in the semiconductor substrate; and

At least one second well (top P well) of the first conductivity type formed in at least one first well, wherein

The semiconductor device is structured by further including at least a processor circuit and a memory circuit formed in at least one first well and at least one second well; and

Power sources each used in one of the integrated circuits.

The limitations concerning the uses of the different circuit elements including nonvolatile memory, processor circuit, logic circuit, analog circuit are recitations of the intended use of the claimed invention. Terms that simply set forth the intended use, a property inherent in or a function, do not differentiate the claimed composition of these elements from those known to prior art. Those skilled in the art should recognize that MOS circuits like those disclosed by Yonemoto have a multitude of uses within semiconductor technology.

In re claim 27, Yonemoto discloses the device of claim 20, wherein potentials different from each other are supplied to the first and second wells.

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In re claim 29, Yonemoto discloses the device of claim 22, wherein potentials different from each other are supplied to the first and second wells.

In re claim 30, Yonemoto discloses the device of claim 23, wherein potentials different from each other are supplied to the first and second wells.

In re claim 31, Yonemoto discloses the device of claim 24, wherein potentials different from each other are supplied to the first and second wells.

In re claim 32, Yonemoto discloses the device of claim 25, wherein potentials different from each other are supplied to the first and second wells.

In re claim 33, Yonemoto discloses the device of claim 26, wherein potentials different from each other are supplied to the first and second wells.

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

6. Claims 21, 28 and 35 are allowed.

7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art of record does not disclose three alternating conductivity wells comprising semiconductor circuits formed in each well.

### *Conclusion*

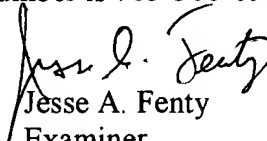
8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Burghartz (U.S. Patent No. 5,818,099); Awaka et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,307,233 B1); Yamamoto (U.S. Patent No. 5,239,197); Arai (U.S. Patent No. 6,342,719 B1); and Baba et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,936,282) discloses similar inventions to the claimed invention.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jesse A. Fenty whose telephone number is 703-308-8137. The examiner can normally be reached on 5/4-9 1st Fri. Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eddie Lee can be reached on 703-308-1690. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7722 for regular communications and 703-746-3892 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

  
Jesse A. Fenty  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2815

JAF  
June 2, 2002